

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1610
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2008
USAGE OF IT BY TERRORISTS
Ananth Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the usage of Information Technology by the Terrorists and extremist groups;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures proposed by the Government to check such usage?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Government is aware of usage of Information Technology by terrorist and extremist groups.

As per available information, terrorist and extremist groups are becoming increasingly techno-savvy in pursuing their nefarious designs and agenda. They are reported to be making use of cyber technology and platform including the internet, satellite, phones, encryption, etc. besides state-of-the art wireless systems. In addition, they are using e-mail services for communication. They are also reported to be using advanced communication technology as a medium for espousing their cause, gathering new recruits and mobilizing funds and supports.

(c): Measures taken by the Government include the Information Technology Act, 2000, providing the legal framework to prevent cyber crimes. A Bill to amend the Act has been introduced in the Lok Sabha to address cyber crimes like phishing, spamming, online frauds, identity thefts, data- protection, etc. Government has also set up Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) to provide support to fight cyber crimes.